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Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the application of: **Jack R. Cooper and** Attorney Docket: **96-06b**
Yungwei Chen

Serial Number: Not Yet Known (**Continuation-in-part application of**
Divisional application 09/471,048 filed December 22, 1999
(to issue on June 5, 2001) based on Patent number 6,125,890
issued November 1, 2000

U.S. Filing Date: June 5, 2001

For: ENERGY ATTENUATION DEVICE FOR A FLUID-CONVEYING
LINE AND METHOD OF ATTENUATING ENERGY IN SUCH A
LINE

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING CONTINUATION-IN-PART
APPLICATION OF DIVISIONAL APPLICATION 09/471,048**

Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 6, please insert the following paragraph between lines 29 and 30:

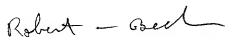
With respect to fixing the spring 21 in position in the hose section 22, such fixation can involve only a portion of the spring, with the remainder of the spring being disposed in the hose section in a non-embedded manner. The fixed portion can be embedded in the hose section, or can be fixed in a non-embedded manner, whereby at least that portion of the spring has an outer diameter that is slightly greater than the inner diameter of the hose section, thereby wedging the spring against the hose section without being entirely embedded therein. The fixed portion of the spring can

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 5 are pending in the application.

The application as submitted is believed to be in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions, or wish to discuss the merits of the application, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to expedite placement of the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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for Applicants

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

On page 6, insert between lines 29 and 30, the following paragraph:

With respect to fixing the spring 21 in position in the hose section 22, such fixation can involve only a portion of the spring, with the remainder of the spring being disposed in the hose section in a non-embedded manner. The fixed portion can be embedded in the hose section, or can be fixed in a non-embedded manner, whereby at least that portion of the spring has an outer diameter that is slightly greater than the inner diameter of the hose section, thereby wedging the spring against the hose section without being entirely embedded therein. The fixed portion of the spring can be an end section thereof, or can be anywhere along the length of the spring.

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